

3. (Amended) The protective switching device claimed in claim 1, wherein the tripping circuit comprises an oscillator which is connected to the primary side of the transformer.

4. (Amended) The protective switching device claimed in claim 3, wherein the oscillator is a square-wave generator whose frequency is set to between 500 Hz and 5 Hz.

5. (Amended) The protective switching device claimed in claim 1, wherein the tripping circuit has a comparator which is connected on the primary side to the transformer and is connected on the output side to the actuation circuit for the release.

6. (Amended) The protective switching device claimed in claim 1, wherein the tripping circuit has a non-reactive resistor  $RS \geq 10 k\Omega$  which is connected to the primary winding of the transformer.

7. (Amended) The protective switching device claimed in claim 1, wherein the tripping circuit has a reference signal source having a voltage divider which is fed from a supply voltage, via a zener diode.

8. (Amended) The protective switching device claimed in claim 1, wherein a secondary of the transformer is connected to ground potential via a resistor series circuit.

9. (Amended) The protective switching device claimed in claim 1, wherein the actuation circuit comprises a comparator with a downstream controllable electronic switch, which is connected to the release.

10. (Amended) The protective switching device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the controllable switch is a transistor whose base control input is connected to the comparator and in whose collector-emitter circuit a tripping relay coil of the release is connected.

**In the Abstract:**

Please replace the Abstract in its entirety with the Abstract attached hereto.

**REMARKS**

The above amendments to the specification, claims and abstract have been made to place the application in proper U.S. format and to conform with proper grammatical and idiomatic English. None of the amendments herein are made for reasons related to patentability. No new matter has been added.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made**".